Case No. 08-CV-0857 (DLC)

AFFIDAVIT OF ALAN HANDELL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

GENE BROWN, KENNETH EDWARDS, ALAN HANDELL, ROBERT HEISS, CAROLINE JAISARIE, KRISTIN LEU, KEVIN O'SULLIVAN, JUAN PAZMINO, HARRY PRECOURT AND ROSALIND WILSON,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

PHILIP J. CALDARELLA,

Defendant.

Defendar

STATE OF NEW YORK) ss.:
COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

Alan Handell, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- 1. I am a Board member of Binding Together Incorporated, and a plaintiff in this action. I make this affidavit based upon my personal knowledge.
- 2. I have served as a member of the Board of BTI from in or about 1992 to the present. This was a non-paid position, and I chose to volunteer for BTI as a charitable activity. I do not own, nor have I ever owned, any interest in BTI. I am currently employed as a Senior Vice President of Sales for Astoria Graphics.
- 3. I never signed Philip Caldarella's employment agreement, and I never understood myself to be a party to it. I did not play any role in the negotiation or drafting of the agreement. I never personally agreed to be bound to Mr. Caldarella's employment agreement with BTI, nor did I ever express any intent to be bound to it, to Mr. Caldarella or anyone else.
- 4. In March 2004, my income was approximately \$125,000. Under no circumstances would I have agreed to personally guarantee Mr. Caldarella's salary payments,

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which were greater than my own income, or accept any personal obligations under any contract

for BTI.

5. I have never agreed to be bound by any arbitration agreement with Mr. Caldarella,

or agreed to submit to the jurisdiction of the American Arbitration Association. The AAA

charges fees for its work, and I have never consented to paying any such fees.

6. In or about August, 2007, I, along with several other BTI Board members, voted

to approve the termination of Mr. Caldarella's employment for "cause" based on evidence

presented to the Board that Mr. Caldarella had mismanaged BTI's affairs, leaving it in a state of

severe financial distress. My attorney has informed me that the facts surrounding Mr.

Caldarella's termination have been submitted to this Court as Exhibit A to the Phillips

Declaration.

7. Mr. Caldarella now seeks to sue me in my personal capacity for over a half a

million dollars claiming that my vote to terminate his employment was made in bad faith and

with the specific intent to harm him. These allegations are completely false, and I intend to

vigorously defend against these allegations. It is absolutely critical that I have all of the

procedural protections afforded by a court of law in defending against these claims. I have never

relinquished my right to these protections.

Alan Handell

Sworn to before me this

<u>^</u> day of <u>†e6</u> ., 2008

Notary Public

ANITA R. MARTON
MOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF NEW YORK
NO. SZMA4662278
GUALIFIED IN NEW YORK COUNTY
COMMISSION EXPIRES 00/21/2016

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